

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action mailed May 26, 2009. All objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-33 are in the case.

Claims 16, 22 and 28 have been amended to better claim the invention.

Claims 34-75 have been cancelled without prejudice

Claim Objections

At paragraph 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 16, 28 and 34. These claims have been amended by way of the current amendment. Applicants believe that the Examiner's objections have been rendered moot by the present amendment.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112

At paragraph 6 of the Office Action, claims 71-72 were rejected under 35 U.S.C §112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 71-72 have been cancelled by way of the present amendment, thereby rendering this rejection as moot.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

At paragraph 6 of the Office Action, claims 16-29 and 35-75 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable in view of Permut U.S. Patent No. 6,260,115 issued on July 10, 2001 (hereinafter "Permut"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 35-75 have been cancelled without prejudice by way of the present amendment, thereby rendering their rejection as moot.

Independent claims 16, 22 and 28 have been amended to conform to the limitations in claim 1. As the Examiner has indicated that claim 1 is allowable, these claims are believed to be allowable for the same reasons. Claims 17-21, 23-27 and 29-32 are dependent claims that depend from these claims. Each is believed to be allowable at least because it depends from an allowable base claim.

Conclusion

All independent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

All dependent claims are believed to be dependent from allowable independent claims, and therefore in condition for allowance.

Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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